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**PATENT** 

801.0004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

**Dobbins** 

Serial No.:

09/960,595

Filed:

September 21, 2001

For:

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR AN ELECTRONIC DROP SAFE

Group:

3627

Examiner:

Chilcott, Richard

Durham, North Carolina September 20, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Preliminary Amendment

Sir: